Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Development Northstar EIS Project

Public Scoping Meeting

Nuiqsut

1996



ORIGINAL

BEAUFORT SEA OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT/
.
NORTHSTAR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Tuesday, May 7, 1996, 7:30 p.m.

Nuiqsut, Alaska

Alaska Stenotype Reporters

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550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1320
Anchorage, AK 99501

Fred M. Getty, RPR, Ret. Rick D. McWilliams, RPR, Ret.

Phone: 907 276-1680 Facsimile: 907 276-8016

1	PARTICIPANTS
2	
3	BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc.: Gary Campbell Cindy Bailor
4	Cindy Bailey Chris Herlugson Ian Leavitt
5	
6	Dames & Moore EIS Preparation Team: Gary Hayward
7	Kim Morris Jon Isaacs
8	Steve Braund
9	LEAD AGENCY
10	U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska:
11	Tim Jennings
12	Terry Carpenter
13	COOPERATING AGENCIES
14	North Slope Borough: Tom Lohman
15 16	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Ted Rockwell (not present)
17	U.S. Minerals Management Service: Paul Lowry (not present)
18	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:
19	Lori Quakenbush
20	U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service: Jeanne Hanson (not present)
21	
22	Translator: Elsie Crow
23	Reported by: Karen Ford
24	Alaska Stenotype Reporters
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1	Tuesday, May 7, 1996, Nuiqsut, Alaska, 7:30 p.m.
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3	TIM JENNINGS: (Inupiat translation by Elsie
4	Crow.) Good evening. I would like to welcome you to this
5	meeting tonight. My name is Tim Jennings and I am with the
6	Corps of Engineers.
7	The purpose of this meeting is for us to obtain
8	public comments regarding BP's Northstar project and
9	Beaufort Sea oil and gas development.
10	I would like to thank you for having us to this
11	meeting. I know that you are busy and you have been to a
12	lot of meetings over the past few weeks and months.
13	I would like to introduce some of the other
14	people here tonight on the Environmental Impact Statement
15	team.
16	Also from the Corps of Engineers is Terry
17	Carpenter, and Terry is our project manager on the project
18	Also on the EIS team is Tom Lohman of the North
19	Slope Borough and Lori Quakenbush of the U.S. Fish and
20	Wildlife Service.
21	Unable to attend the meeting tonight is Paul
22	Lowry of the Minerals Management Service and Jeanne Hanson

23 of the National Marine Fisheries Service and Ted Rockwell of EPA. 24

25 Also seated at the head table is Gary Hayward

- 1 from Dames & Moore, who is a consultant with Dames & Moore
- 2 who is preparing the Environmental Impact Statement for the
- 3 agencies.
- 4 At the end of the table is Gary Campbell from
- 5 BP.
- 6 I'm going to start briefly with a request that I
- 7 had when we attempted to have the meeting last month. The
- 8 city requested that we explain briefly the agency roles and
- 9 responsibilities. There is a handout at the front table
- 10 that lists the agencies and the permits that could be
- 11 issued for decisions that will be made and the basic
- 12 responsibility of each agency. The agencies that have an
- 13 asterisk beside them are part of the EIS team.
- 14 Once you have had a chance to look that over, at
- 15 the break or afterwards, if you would like additional
- 16 information or dialogue on what kind of permit decisions
- 17 will be made, based upon this sheet, we would be happy to
- 18 talk with you further about that.
- 19 Also on the table tonight is a newsletter. On
- 20 the third page in there is a little flow diagram showing
- 21 the process. There is a little hand here that shows where
- 22 we are in the process of the EIS, the Environmental Impact
- 23 Statement process. I want to emphasize again that we are
- 24 early in the process. This is a scoping meeting. It's
- 25 sort of like a preapplication stage. No permit decisions

- 1 have been made. We are here to gather your concerns and
- 2 hear from you about what kind of issues and concerns you
- 3 have for this project so we can carry those concerns
- 4 forward as we develop the Environmental Impact Statement.
- I want to explain briefly and emphasize that BP
- 6 is the project sponsor and the applicant, and that the
- 7 agencies, the federal agencies mentioned, the Corps of
- 8 Engineers, Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental
- 9 Protection Agency, Mineral's Management Service and the
- 10 North Slope Borough, are cooperating to prepare the
- 11 Environmental Impact Statement. Those agencies are
- 12 neutral. We are not for the project, we are not against
- 13 the project. No permit decisions have been made. We are
- 14 early in the process.
- And Tom Lohman is here, if you would like to
- 16 explain briefly the Borough's role in the EIS team. This
- 17 is the first EIS, Environmental Impact Statement, where the
- 18 Borough has been a cooperating agency, or is a cooperating
- 19 agency with the federal agencies, and we are very pleased
- 20 that the Borough has made that decision to be a cooperating
- 21 agency with the federal agencies.
- 22 TOM LOHMAN: (Inupiat translation by Elsie
- 23 Crow.) I'm going to stand up, since I'm more comfortable
- 24 moving around when I talk.
- I don't know if Elsie has introduced herself.

- 1 This is Elsie Crow. I think most of you know her. She is
- 2 our translator tonight. Thanks for coming along.
- Again, my name is Tom Lohman. I am with the
- 4 North Slope Borough's wildlife department. I have been
- 5 with the Borough about nine years, with the law department
- 6 for the first four and a half of that and the wildlife
- 7 department for the last four and a half of that.
- And I understand that you folks have had a whole
- 9 lot of meetings in this town in the last couple of months
- 10 dealing with a lot of different projects and a lot of
- 11 different proposals from a lot of different federal
- 12 agencies and oil companies.
- And for those in the Borough it has been kind of
- 14 hard to keep it all straight, so I have a hard time
- imagining how difficult it might have been for some of you
- 16 to keep all the different meetings straight and the
- 17 different projects that people are sort of throwing at you
- 18 at the same time.
- I have spoken with the mayor and the mayor
- 20 wanted me to make a couple of things very clear tonight.
- 21 There seems to have been maybe a little confusion --
- 22 probably our own fault -- about where the Borough stands on
- 23 this project. And I think the best way to describe it is
- 24 to explain that there are two different projects going on,
- 25 and we have probably made some mistakes in calling certain

- things "the project" when we meant a different project.
- 2 The two projects are the Northstar development that British
- 3 Petroleum, BP, wants to do, and then there is this EIS
- 4 project, or Environmental Impact Statement project, and
- 5 that is what the Borough is involved in.
- What BP has proposed to do has triggered this
- 7 whole Environmental Impact Statement process. And what the
- 8 Environmental Impact Statement is, you'll hear us calling
- 9 it the EIS, and it is going to be a big document. That's
- 10 going to be the Environmental Impact Statement that gets
- 11 produced. And that document -- you have all seen those
- documents before, and a lot of times we have had some
- 13 problems with those documents that other agencies have put
- 14 together. This is the first one we've seen out of BP so
- 15 there is no criticism of BP here. But we the agencies are
- 16 putting together this document.
- And so we are one of the authors essentially of
- 18 the document. It's going to be our document and we want it
- 19 to be as good a document as it can be. And what the
- 20 document is going to do is analyze all of the potential
- 21 environmental impacts of the project that BP wants to do.
- So when you hear the phrase cooperating agency,
- 23 it does not mean the Borough is cooperating with BP in
- 24 pushing its Northstar development project, it means that we
- are cooperating with five federal agencies to put together

- 1 a document that analyzes the possible impacts of that
- 2 project.
- And part of being a member of that team of
- 4 agencies that's going to put together the EIS is the
- 5 requirement that we don't make any permitting decisions in
- 6 the North Slope Borough and the other federal agencies
- 7 don't make their permitting decisions until the end of the
- 8 EIS process. So until we have a document to look at that
- 9 tells us all the possible impacts, we are not going to say
- 10 yes or no to this project. So that's what we are -- as Tim
- 11 said, we are very early in that process. We are coming to
- 12 you folks, asking you folks to tell us what issues do you
- 13 want to see discussed in that big document.
- 14 And again the last thing I will say now -- I
- 15 will say a little more later -- is that the Borough has no
- 16 position yet on this project. The Borough will not take a
- 17 position on this project until the EIS is completed and we
- 18 have that document to look at to help us make the decision.
- 19 But, again, we want the document to contain all of your
- 20 concerns, all of information we can get out of you, so that
- 21 when those decisions are made it will be the best decision
- 22 it can be.
- So, again, thank you all for being here. This
- 24 is one opportunity for you to provide input to us, and I
- 25 mean me through the Borough and the other federal agencies

- who are present. But also we are available at all times to
- 2 take your input. What we will do with any input you give
- 3 us is feed it to the agency team and hopefully you'll see
- 4 it in the document. And, again, as Tim said, this is the
- first time that the Borough has been part of a group
- 6 putting together one of these documents. So I can commit
- 7 to you on behalf of the mayor that we are determined to
- 8 make sure that your input gets in this document in a more
- 9 meaningful way than you may have seen your input from
- 10 previous meetings end up in other documents that have been
- 11 put together. So that is where we stand right now.
- Frank, do you want to say something?
- FRANK LONG: You mean to say our comments
- 14 regarding issues is now put in a book which will be about
- 15 foot thick?
- 16 TOM LOHMAN: It might be.
- 17 FRANK LONG: What kind of promises do we get out
- 18 of it?
- 19 TOM LOHMAN: It might be a foot thick. Well,
- 20 that's up to the mayor, is what I'll tell you now, but
- 21 right now the Borough has no position.
- If you folks -- I don't know if I want to step
- 23 out of where we are in the agenda.
- 24 Can I have permission to step out of where we
- 25 are in the agenda for a second?

1 If you need to, step out. TIM JENNINGS: 2 TOM LOHMAN: If I need to. I've always got to 3 respond to Frank. 4 We've gone to a lot of trouble to try to make 5 sure that the comments that are given to us by local people 6 and organizations on the North Slope are incorporated in 7 this document in a way that they have not been incorporated 8 in documents in the past. 'And one of the things we are 9 doing, for instance, is searching through the testimony of 10 past meetings, because a lot of these people have said the 11 same thing over and over again. Frank, you're one of them. 12 I've heard you say the same thing over and over again, and 13 maybe you're a little tired of saying it. So we're going 14 to go back and look through some of the transcripts and try 15 to get that information from previous things you have said 16 and to try to document it. And to help us do that from the 17 Borough's standpoint and the agencies' standpoint, as much 18 information as you can give us in great detail is useful to 19 the process. 20 And, again, if you are not comfortable giving it 21 to us here at the meeting, some of the things may require 22 more in-depth conversations, again, you can contact us. 23 There are also comment cards over on the table -- you 24 probably have one -- where you can send us information.

But the kind of things that I need to hear on

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- 1 behalf of the Borough, if you say I want this project for
- 2 these reasons or I don't know want this project for these
- 3 reasons, we need to hear why. Not just that you want it
- 4 you do not want it, but why, because it's the why that has
- 5 to get dealt with in the document.
- So we are going to try to do a better job,
- 7 Frank. I can't tell you that it's going to be a perfect
- 8 document, and I can't tell you that every word you say is
- 9 going to appear in that document exactly as you said it,
- 10 but I hope that we can capture the concerns that you
- 11 express in a better way than you've seen in other
- 12 documents. And if they don't, you come after me and we'll
- 13 talk about it.
- 14 FRANK LONG: I am going to add my comment to t'
- 15 Corps of Engineers who are here.
- Regardless of how many comments or remarks we
- 17 make toward a certain project, whether it be inland or out
- in the Beaufort or the Chukchi, there is always a way
- 19 around, that you guys go ahead and permit a certain company
- 20 to do exploration or development.
- 21 Will our comments have any effect toward the
- 22 regards of this Northstar project?
- TIM JENNINGS: Your comments will be, as Tom
- 24 mentioned, taken seriously and considered in the document.
- 25 And when each of the agencies reach the decision point,

- 1 this document that Tom has referred to is what the
- 2 decisionmakers in our agencies will use to make their
- 3 decision.
- 4 Okay. Moving forward with tonight's meeting --
- 5 TOM LOHMAN: If I can interrupt for a second.
- 6 Again, for the purposes of the -- we have a
- 7 court reporter up here. This is Karen. She has been
- 8 traveling to the villages with us.
- 9 Again, if you want your comments reflected in
- 10 the record, you need to tell her who you are.
- 11 That was Frank Long who just spoke. And, again,
- 12 it will be very helpful if you can identify yourselves.
- And I would like, when someone speaks, if they
- 14 could give just a little information about yourself. It
- 15 would be helpful to know that Frank is a whaling captain.
- 16 Frank has other credentials that he may want to give you
- 17 when he speaks again. I'm sure you are going to speak
- 18 again, Frank.
- 19 Those are the kind of things that help us when
- 20 we prepare the document, to know who you are when you speak
- 21 and a little about you and the amount of experience that is
- 22 behind the comments that you are giving us.
- 23 TIM JENNINGS: (Inupiat translation by Elsie
- 24 Crow.) To move forward in tonight's meeting, we would like
- 25 to first have Gary Campbell of BP present BP's conceptual

- 1 plan for the Northstar project, regarding alternatives that
- they have looked at for pipeline routes, the status of any
- 3 engineering design that they are currently working on and
- 4 any planned studies and work for this summer related to the
- 5 project.
- 6 Following that presentation will be Gary Hayward
- 7 from Dames & Moore who will explain a little bit more about
- 8 the EIS process and an overview of the scoping and public
- 9 involvement process. As I mentioned, Dames & Moore is the
- 10 third-party contractor preparing the EIS.
- 11 Then after those two brief presentations, we
- 12 will ask to hear from you regarding what concerns, what
- issues that you would like us as agencies to consider, when
- 14 a year from now, next spring, the agencies will be making
- 15 decisions regarding this project.
- 16 GARY CAMPBELL: (Inupiat translation by Elsie
- 17 Crow.) Thank you.
- 18 Thank you very much for coming out tonight in
- 19 this beautiful weather. I would have a hard time
- 20 convincing myself to come inside to hear people from out of
- 21 town.
- BP is very interested in making the Northstar
- 23 project a success. That means supporting the EIS process
- 24 that is happening with the federal agencies and the North
- 25 Slope Borough as a cooperating agency. We look at it as a

- 1 way to help replace some of the declining production on the
- 2 North Slope. And, again, we are very interested in making
- 3 a successful project at Northstar.
- To describe the project a little bit, I had the
- 5 good fortune about a year ago, Cindy Bailey and I came up
- 6 and had the opportunity to meet with the mayor, just to
- 7 briefly let them know that BP was interested in Northstar.
- 8 Where we are at today is we are looking at an offshore
- 9 development. It will be the first offshore development in
- 10 the Arctic. Endicott does stick out into the Arctic in the
- 11 Beaufort there a bit but it is actually connected by a
- 12 causeway to the island. Northstar will be a stand-alone by
- 13 itself offshore. It's about six miles from the mainland.
- 14 It encompasses state and federal leases. There are two
- 15 federal leases involved. And it is all, essentially all
- 16 within the North Slope Borough taxation assessment
- 17 district.
- There are several key issues that are part of
- 19 the design. The first one I want to talk about briefly is
- 20 the structure that we would like to use offshore. We have
- 21 looked at several options, from the CIDS, which is a
- 22 concrete island drilling structure. Most of you can
- 23 actually see it. It's parked outside federal waters there.
- 24 Shell used it and Amerada Hess used it to drill exploration
- 25 and appraisal wells at Northstar. We have looked at that

- 1 structure. We've looked at Molikpaq, which is another
- 2 structure that is currently in the Canadian Beaufort. We
- 3 looked at the concrete-retaining islands, or
- 4 caisson-retained island. And we are also looking at Seal
- 5 Island, rebuilding Seal Island and making it a little
- 6 larger than what it is today to house the production
- 7 equipment as well as drilling equipment.
- 8 The next thing I want to talk about in the key
- 9 issues and design is where the major facilities are going
- 10 to be located. The island is being sized to hold most of
- 11 the facilities; however, we expect that we will need to use
- 12 some of the existing facilities onshore. So when it is
- 13 totally designed -- and we are not there yet, and I will
- 14 talk a little bit about where we are in engineering design
- 15 here in a few minutes -- but it will probably be a
- 16 combination of new facilities offshore, maybe some new
- 17 facilities onshore and use of existing facilities onshore.
- 18 Whether that's process or pipeline and right-of-ways or
- 19 BSMs that already exist, we haven't yet established what
- 20 the final design is, but it's probably going to be a
- 21 combination of some new as well as some existing
- 22 infrastructure and facilities.
- The pipeline is probably one of the major issues
- 24 that we are looking at in terms of design issues. We are
- looking at approximately 50,000 barrels of oil per day in

- 1 terms of production rate. Conceptual engineering has two
- 2 pipelines planned, a 12-inch oil pipeline and a 10-inch gas
- 3 pipeline. The gas pipeline will be used early in the
- 4 project to actually take gas to the island for the drilling
- 5 and later on in the field life gas production from the
- 6 island will go to shore, assuming that at some point in the
- 7 future we have some gas sales on the North Slope.
- 8 There are several routes that we have looked at
- 9 in terms of where best to take the pipeline from the
- 10 offshore structure to the mainland. One of them is a
- 11 straight shot into Point Storkersen. We have a couple of
- 12 alternative routes that go to Milne Point, we have a couple
- of routes that go down to West Dock. And the whole idea is
- 14 we are looking at all of the possible sharing of
- infrastructures, possible routes that would allow us to
- 16 maximize the use of existing facilities, and at the same
- 17 time be the safest design, have the least environmental
- 18 impact from an offshore pipeline point of view.
- Some of the studies that we currently have going
- 20 tie directly to our construction techniques primarily on
- 21 the island. One of the major studies that we are still in
- 22 the middle of is the test trench, and I believe there was
- one or two representatives from Nuiqsut that were able to
- 24 get over about a month ago and take a look at the test
- 25 trench as it was being worked. For those of you that

- weren't there, we did two, actually three -- a test pit, a
- 2 test trench inside the barrier islands, and a test trench
- 3 outside just north of Stump Island -- primarily to learn
- 4 not only the engineering activities but how best to arrange
- 5 the equipment and the pipeline to safely put the pipeline
- 6 in place below the seabed from the mainland to the offshore
- 7 structure.
- I might just add that some of the pictures on
- 9 the display here describe in a certain way how we intend to
- 10 put the pipeline into the trench below the ice. And if you
- 11 would like, after I would be glad to stand around and talk
- 12 to you about how we are planning to do it and obviously get
- any comments or suggestions you have about how best to do
- 14 it.
- In terms of status of our engineering, to date
- 16 we have completed conceptual engineering, and that was
- 17 where we determined all of the different alternatives that
- 18 I've talked about today, the facilities onshore or offshore
- 19 of the structure, the various pipeline routes. We are now
- 20 starting to work with what we call preliminary engineering
- 21 where we are starting to evaluate and do what we call
- 22 alternative analysis on the various alternatives to bring
- them down to what we would like to think as BP's preferred
- 24 alternative. But, again, we are working very much in sync
- 25 with the EIS process. We are completely separate but we

- 1 still need to work with them because it's the EIS process
- 2 that will determine what the impacts are and what is the
- 3 best alternative, assuming the project goes forward.
- A couple of things that we have already

<u>.</u>

- 5 incorporated into our design criteria actually came from
- 6 Leonard and I think Thomas when we were here last May.
- 7 That was no gravel bags for slope protection around the
- 8 island. There was a concern that was raised in terms of
- 9 the bags breaking up in storms and floating and getting
- 10 caught in boats, the motors and propellers of boats, and so
- 11 we have avoided that design, we are going with the concrete
- 12 matting. Another issue was the noise. We are doing
- 13 studies currently in terms of what kind of noise the
- 14 equipment that we are looking at as a possible part of the
- 15 process, what noise levels they are going to make and what
- 16 impact those noises will have. And also color was raised
- 17 as a concern last May when we were here and we would like
- 18 to hear from you in terms of color that is going to be
- 19 least disruptive to not only your movements but also animal
- 20 movements and mammal movements, et cetera.
- 21 The last key issue I want to talk about is
- 22 permitting. BP has not applied for any permits yet. We
- 23 have voluntarily in fact asked for the EIS process to be a
- 24 part of this project. We believe that the EIS is necessary
- 25 and the right thing to do. As such we consider ourselves a

- 1 cooperating applicant. We are trying to support the EIS
- 2 process in any way we can even though we are not a part of
- 3 the EIS itself.
- 4 And I think that is all I have to say. Again,
- 5 thank you very much for coming out tonight. This beautiful
- 6 weather, I would be tempted to stay at home or play
- 7 outside. Thank you.
- 8 TIM JENNINGS: Thank you, Gary.
- 9 Gary Hayward.
- 10 GARY HAYWARD: (Inupiat translation by Elsie
- 11 Crow.) My name is Gary Hayward and I'm from Dames &
- 12 Moore's Anchorage office and the project manager for the
- 13 preparation of this EIS effort.
- In addition to the agencies and BP, we have
- assembled a team of experts to assist us with this project.
- JON ISAACS: Speak louder, please.
- 17 GARY HAYWARD: In addition to BP and the
- 18 agencies here tonight, we have assembled a team of experts
- 19 to assist us with this effort that are familiar with North
- 20 Slope issues and North Slope processes, many of which are
- 21 here tonight. One is Jon Isaacs who has been working with
- us on the Slope here for a while. Another is Steve Braund,
- 23 working on the subsistence and resource issues.
- As Tim has mentioned, I am sure you have all
- 25 seen our newsletters or heard announcements on the radio c-

- 1 have gotten other announcements in the mail regarding
- 2 tonight's meeting. We are in the very early stages of the
- 3 EIS process, a process called scoping.
- 4 Prior to tonight we have had similar meetings
- 5 like this in Kaktovik and Barrow, in Fairbanks, Anchorage
- 6 and Valdez, and we have met with a host of other federal
- 7 and state agencies.
- 8 The purpose of this meeting tonight is to
- 9 provide you with initial information regarding the
- 10 Northstar project and on the gas development in the
- 11 Beaufort Sea in general, and also to provide you an
- 12 opportunity to raise issues and your concerns related to
- 13 oil development including traditional Native knowledge and
- 14 experience as it relates to subsistence, ice, weather
- 15 conditions and other resources.
- 16 It is important to remember that this could be
- 17 the first offshore oil and gas development in the Beaufort,
- 18 and as such it has several aspects which are different than
- 19 previous exploration activities that have gone on in the
- 20 past. Some of these different aspects include year-round
- 21 operations, and include more helicopter and vessel
- 22 transport and traffic, and oil transportation from a
- 23 facility offshore to shore-based facilities.
- And although BP has presented what they are
- 25 proposing as their Northstar project, the EIS process

- 1 requires that we consider a wide range of alternatives.
- 2 Some of the alternatives could include different oil
- 3 production structures rather than a gravel island that's
- 4 been proposed, as well as other modes of oil transportation
- 5 to shore than pipelines.
- And to reemphasize some of what Tom Lohman has
- 7 mentioned about how we are going to structure this EIS, we
- 8 are going to make every effort to make this a much more
- 9 user-friendly document than the previous EISs you've seen,
- 10 and incorporate to the extent that we possibly can
- 11 traditional knowledge and experience that we can gather
- 12 from you folks. And we will have separate sections devoted
- 13 to traditional knowledge and you will be able to see how
- 14 your comments have been addressed -- one, if they are
- incorporated in the document and, second, where they are
- 16 addressed.
- And in addition to the scoping meetings tonight
- 18 and the previous scoping meetings that we had in other
- 19 villages, we are planning a series of follow-up meetings
- 20 between now and the next few weeks with selected members of
- 21 your communities, along with Kaktovik and Barrow, to help
- 22 refine some of these issues related to traditional
- 23 knowledge and related experience, in addition to going back
- 24 through previous testimony and previous EISs and public
- 25 hearing testimony to bring that information in as well.

- 1 And that will be incorporated into the EIS document.
- 2 And in addition to the newsletter you received
- 3 for this meeting, there will be a series of follow-up
- 4 newsletters as this project progresses, and in addition to
- 5 that there will be a series of other public hearings as the
- 6 draft EIS is released sometime later this fall.
- 7 Again, thank you for your attendance tonight.
- 8 We look forward to your comments and your testimony.
- 9 With that, I will turn it back over to Tim to
- 10 solicit your comments.
- 11 TOM LOHMAN: A couple things real quick.
- 12 First, for the record, that is a really cute
- 13 baby.
- 14 Second, we are about to get to the most
- 15 important part of the meeting, which is hearing you. And
- 16 it's my mistake, but we should have done this earlier.
- 17 have asked Alice Woods to lead us all in prayer before we
- 18 get to hearing your testimony.
- 19 ALICE WOODS: (Prayer in Inupiat.)
- 20 ELSIE CROW: We are going to take a ten-minute
- 21 break.
- 22 TIM JENNINGS: So, to 25 till, and then we'll
- 23 have testimony.
- 24 (Recess.)
- 25 TIM JENNINGS: (Inupiat translation by Elsie

- 1 Crow.) We would like to begin again. We would like to
- open the floor up to anybody who would like to give us your
- 3 comments or your testimony about what would you like to see
- 4 in the EIS document, what would you like to have the
- 5 decisionmakers have in terms of knowledge and information
- 6 to make decisions.
- 7 If you would be so kind as to please state your
- 8 name and, as Tom mentioned, if you have long experience
- 9 like Frank or Patsy as whaling captains, if you would
- 10 explain that for the record -- we have a court reporter, we
- 11 want to be sure and get the information that you have --
- 12 and then give us your comments. We would be pleased to
- 13 have that.
- 14 Is there an elder or anyone who would like to
- 15 speak first, or a whaling captain or a city official who
- 16 would like to be first?
- 17 TOM LOHMAN: Leonard, is there anything you want
- 18 to say?
- 19 LEONARD LAMPE: My name is Leonard Lampe. I am
- 20 the vice mayor for the city of Nuigsut.
- We are very concerned about the Northstar
- 22 development because, first of all, it's being an offshore
- 23 well or a near-shore well, and that still needs to be
- 24 found, whether it's offshore or near-shore. We are very
- 25 skeptic about the oil spill response. Some of us are on a

- 1 village response team and we have been on drills on
- 2 exploratory offshore wells. And we have seen where the oil
- 3 spill response team kind of puts their hands in the air
- 4 because of ice conditions, so we are very skeptic about oil
- 5 cleanup if there is a spill. As a member, I am.
- I am also concerned about a few things like if
- 7 we are going to have flames out on the project, if there is
- 8 going to be any flames flaring out on the project. Because
- 9 it's very close to the whaling base of Nuigsut called Cross
- 10 Island, so I am very concerned on the migration and the
- impactment on the whales when we are out there. Because it
- 12 makes whales more spooked and more dangerous for the crews,
- 13 so I am very scared for the crews on the behavior of the
- 14 whale.
- On the lights, I want to see -- you know, it
- 16 might disturb migration. I want to make sure, if there are
- 17 going to be any flames out there as well as discoloration
- 18 to the environment, different colors.
- 19 Also, on lighting, beams, lighting beams on the
- 20 project as well. We are concerned -- we know that there
- 21 are some state codes that you have to follow, but we would
- 22 like you to try to make it as close as you can to the
- 23 environment.
- Overall, I am still sceptic about the project.
- 25 Personally I haven't made a decision opposing or endorsing

- 1 the project until I have heard both sides from BP. We have
- 2 pretty much heard -- so we would like to give BP a chance
- 3 of stating how they can clean up, how can they protect our
- 4 subsistence lifestyle and still develop this project.
- 5 Another question I had is are you going to
- 6 restrict us from boating near the project? Are we going to
- 7 be still allowed access to that area? There are some
- 8 questions on assistance. If local residents were out there
- 9 in need, would BP assist those as well as whalers that are
- 10 in need? Emergency aid is what I'm talking about.
- 11 Also on your project, how are you going to
- 12 resupply the project? Like you have to bring in supplies,
- 13 so how are you going to do that? By helicopter, by air?
- 14 So that doesn't ease me that you are going to have a lot of
- 15 noise disturbance if you are going to be supplying by air
- 16 or by boat.

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- 17 And also a big question. This is kind of the
- 18 first offshore development on the North Slope so this is
- 19 kind of an opening door to opening offshore. So, you know,
- 20 this is very scary. We have always grown up to say no to
- 21 offshore. And if this project goes through, there is going
- 22 to be other companies, other leases that the state is going
- 23 to be giving out, leasing out, other parts of the ocean,
- 24 not just Northstar. But this is going to be an opening
- '5 door. When this goes through, all other companies are

- 1 going to look at the North Slope for offshore wells.
- 2 So I am asking you do you have any additional
- 3 development? Are you looking at a west Northstar in our
- 4 area? The delta of the Colville and the Miluveach are very
- 5 sensitive areas to this village.
- I think that I pretty much state most of my
- 7 concerns, but overall I am still skeptic about the project.
- 8 I would like to hear BP's side of how would they clean up
- 9 on oil spills. That's my biggest concern on an oil spill.
- And, again, my name is Leonard Lampe. Thank
- 11 you.
- 12 TOM LOHMAN: Leonard, can I interrupt you for a
- 13 second?
- 14 You've expressed a lot of really good concerns.
- 15 Again -- I'm not trying to put you on the spot now, there
- 16 is plenty of time you can respond in writing or you can
- 17 respond later tonight. But when you talk about things like
- 18 lights, it's helpful for us to know what you want, not just
- 19 what you're concerned about. So if you think lights are a
- 20 good idea for navigation, then that gets in the EIS. If
- 21 you think lights are a bad idea because they'll scare
- 22 whales away or interfere with the whaling, we want to know
- 23 that.
- 24 Boating restrictions, when you say you want to
- 25 know if they are going to prevent you, I assume what you

- 1 are saying is you don't want them to prevent you from being
- 2 in the area.
- 3 LEONARD LAMPE: Yes,
- 4 TOM LOHMAN: That's important to have. You said
- 5 emergency aid. I think you were real clear about that.
- 6 You expect them if they are out there to help you.
- 7 Resupply, you said we want to know about helicopters and
- 8 boats. If would be helpful for us to know what you want if
- 9 you want it. No helicopters, or you want no boats, or you
- 10 want helicopters and boats on a very definite schedule once
- 11 a week so you know where they are. Those kind of things
- 12 would help us a lot and would help BP a lot in their
- 13 planning.
- So again I'm not trying to put you on the spot
- 15 now, but you've given us a lot to think about, and now that
- 16 we're thinking about it, we in the Borough in particular
- 17 want to do what you want. So if you guys can think about
- 18 those things and tell us where you're --
- 19 LEONARD LAMPE: It's going to be a very hard
- 20 decision even to think about, I mean now. I don't want to
- 21 be explaining to my boys or my children or any of Nuiqsut
- 22 children why they can't go whaling because there was an oil
- 23 spill. I want to make that clear. I want everybody's kids
- 24 to go whaling. I want my kids to go whaling, I want their
- 25 kids to go whaling. And if there is a disaster, I don't

- 1 want to be the one to answer to their children why didn't
- 2 we speak up against this project.
- I just want to put that in the record, that
- 4 everyone needs to testify tonight. And also they need to
- 5 think about their future as well in jobs and this might be
- 6 the answer, but it might not be -- you know, it's a very
- 7 hard decision to make. But I don't want to be the one to
- 8 explain to their children or my children if there is no
- 9 more culture, no more whaling. And we all know that the
- 10 whaling is the base of our culture. And I don't want to
- 11 explain to my children why there is going to be no whaling
- 12 if a disaster happens.
- And I would just like to hear BP's side of how
- 14 they plan to protect the sea as well as our culture and
- 15 still trying to develop this.
- But I will write to you in more details about
- 17 the concerns that I have stated to you.
- 18 TIM JENNINGS: Thank you, Leonard. Thank you.
- JOHNNY AHTUANGARUAK: My name is Johnny
- 20 Ahtuangaruak.
- 21 (English translation by Elsie Crow) He just
- 22 wanted for anybody that speaks Inupiat for me to translate
- 23 for you guys in English. I'll speak up.
- He just wanted to explain that I need to
- 25 translate for those that are speaking in Inupiat to you

- 1 people so you understand and then they understand.
- 2 (Inupiat translation of Leonard Lampe's
- 3 testimony by Elsie Crow.)
- 4 PATSY TUKLE: (English translation by Elsie
- 5 Crow.) This is Patsy Tukle. He is also a whaling captain.
- 6 His concern right now is he feels that the
- 7 people that are here right now have already done all the
- 8 work and now, after you have completed all this work that
- 9 you are doing, you come to us? His concern is that are you
- 10 coming to us when you are done with your work and now it's
- 11 too late for them to give you their comments? That's his
- 12 concern.

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- And his concern is also during whaling season,
- 14 if they do go ahead with this development, will they be
- able to stop this development, you know, the work and
- 16 everything that is going on, during whaling season. That
- 17 will be in the springtime and fall time.
- 18 FRANK LONG: Fall time.
- 19 TIM JENNINGS: October, September? October.
- 20 PATSY TUKLE: (English translation continuing by
- 21 Elsie Crow.) There is a fueling station, I guess, at Cross
- 22 Island and he is concerned that during when they are out
- 23 boating and stuff that the fuel runs out pretty fast, and
- 24 would the people that are around there working be able to
- 25 help them with the fuel supplies. During whaling season

- 1 especially, when they are out whaling they tend to run out
- of fuel pretty fast when everybody is out there whaling,
- 3 and that's a concern. Can you help with the fuel.
- 4 Especially if you are going to build a road up this way, it
- 5 would be one of his concerns.
- And he is also concerned about his comments
- 7 being put into that report, the EIS report.
- TIM JENNINGS: Does he want them in the report?
- 9 ELSIE CREW: M-hm.
- 10 PATSY TUKLE: (English translation continuing by
- 11 Elsie Crow.) That is the reason he is asking are you folks
- 12 here after it is too late for our comments to be put in
- 13 this report.
- 14 ALICE WOODS: My name is Alice Woods.
- I have got a question. Are they going to put a
- 16 road all the way from the land where you decide you want
- 17 it?
- 18 TIM JENNINGS: BP is not proposing to build a
- 19 road. BP is not proposing a road out to Seal Island,
- 20 Northstar Island.
- 21 ALICE WOODS: Because there is different fish
- 22 that we catch here that travels all the way from Mackenzie
- 23 River. So are they going to -- my question was if they put
- 24 in a road, they could pack a lot of Native food that we
- 25 hunt down there.

1 TIM JENNINGS: There won't be a road. 2 ALICE WOODS: And if they are putting the pipe under, how much are they going to disturb the species 3 4 underneath? Any answer for that? Because every year we 5 all know they travel a lot toward here all the way from 6 Mackenzie, Arctic sisco that we get in the month of 7 October. 8 TIM JENNINGS: So you are concerned about the 9 Arctic sisco coming from the Mackenzie River? 10 ALICE WOODS: Yes. We do catch those here. 11 And other things, from here they go down that 12 way and hunt seal, bearded seal and other. So how much 13 they going to disturb them? How long? 14 TOM LOHMAN: When does that activity take place? 15 ALICE WOODS: Yeah, the activities of the 16 animals. 17 TOM LOHMAN: When is that? When do you hunt 18 seals? 19 FRANK LONG: Spring through fall. 20 ALICE WOODS: (Speaking Inupiat.) 21 Another thing is all these meetings, any meeting 22 from oil companies, we've been asking for local hire, local 23 trading. None. Even ARCO didn't hire even though they 24 were about how many miles from us. Only a few. And there

is not young people graduating. I don't think BP ever have

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- 1 any Native training or local hire. And these so close to
- 2 us, and if we had a hard time with our hunting, where are
- 3 we going to get the money from? My grandchild, where are
- 4 they going to get a job?
- 5 Another thing is if they had an oil spill, how
- 6 are we going to survive? Or are we getting help from
- 7 Northstar BP, whoever? Do they give us dividend every
- 8 three months for us to buy meat after they've destroyed so
- 9 much of the animals that we ate?
- I don't think they would listen to us, but we
- 11 have to survive too, like sucking the oil from down there.
- 12 (Speaking Inupiat.) That is what I asked them.
- 13 Maybe Nuigsut will be the first one to, if oil spill done.
- 14 TOM LOHMAN: A quick response to Alice and to
- 15 Patsy. There will be a document called a scoping report
- 16 that will come out, and that will include the hard work
- 17 that this nice lady is doing over here which she'll type
- 18 up, so you'll be able to see what you said and make sure
- 19 that it was translated -- we're having a lot of translation
- 20 tonight, which is really good.
- 21 ALICE WOODS: It is very, very risky, you know,
- 22 mostly for our grandchildren, they be there and something
- 23 happens.

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- 24 TIM JENNINGS: What Leonard -- where are you
- Leonard? Leonard has asked that we send two copies of the

- 1 minutes or the recording from the meeting tonight to the
- 2 city so that you can look it over and make sure that what
- 3 gets transcribed is accurate. So Leonard will be sending
- 4 that to you.
- 5 Frank Frank Long.
- 6 FRANK LONG: My name is Frank Long. I am
- 7 president of the Nuiqsut Whaling Captains Association. I
- 8 am also secretary/treasurer for the Native village of
- 9 Nuigsut.
- I have had some concerns about this project
- 11 since day one when I first heard that Northstar was on the
- 12 policy of development. To me it was something that I would
- 13 never have wanted to hear. And I went down to Anchorage
- 14 for a meeting and they had discussed this project during
- 15 that time. It scared me. But all in all, we know what we
- 16 all want. The industry wants to do their thing for one
- 17 reason only, to supply oil to the nation. We as Natives
- 18 want to survive also as subsistence hunters, and living in
- 19 this area for a number of years. I should say since time
- 20 immemorial. We have survived without any industry before
- 21 they come around to do any exploring. We have studied a
- 22 lot of things in land and in water. I am still afraid if
- 23 they go ahead and develop this project. The very thing
- 24 that they really haven't studied is current and ice
- 25 movement. There is a big polar icecap out there that you

- 1 all don't know which way it moves when it decides to. It
- 2 doesn't care what's in its way once it starts moving.
- 3 Obstruction to the polar icecap is like a little toy that
- 4 will break down. The burial of that pipeline is
- 5 something -- I know in the bay it won't matter much as it
- 6 will going out further to deeper water. You are planning
- 7 to develop on 50 feet of water on moving ice. Once that
- 8 polar icecap hits your project, it won't stop it once it
- 9 starts moving. Maybe it will destroy it or shove it over.
- 10 I am afraid of that, because once that big ice moves either
- 11 direction, whether from the east or from the west, it will
- 12 damage a lot of things.
- There is a lot of interest in this project, not
- 14 only BP but other oil industry agencies. We have dots over
- 15 there on these maps. I think they are pertaining to whale.
- 16 This one is from '79 to '96. Where they get all those
- 17 little dots from, I don't know. That one is from 1980 to
- 18 1982. It looks more -- I don't know who produced this, but
- 19 some years when there is a tremendous amount of activity in
- 20 the Beaufort, especially in the Prudhoe Bay all the way to
- 21 Kuvlum area, it is very hard for us to harvest even one
- 22 whale in a season; whereas when this activity is limited,
- 23 it does not take us two weeks to get, or meet our quota of
- 24 four.

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25 If this happens to go ahead and be developed by

- 1 starting as of next year, what other company is going to
- 2 come over next to do the same thing? Will it be Exxon or
- 3 will it be ARCO? There are various exploratory wells out
- 4 in the Beaufort that is further than this project,
- 5 Northstar.
- 6 There is air pollution that we should consider.
- 7 There is water pollution that the industry produces. There
- 8 are all kinds of little things that we should consider in.
- 9 this project. One of the guys claimed that he will use
- 10 concrete matting. Will that hold? Noise is a big factor
- 11 to us whalers. Traffic, air traffic, boat traffic is a big
- 12 factor. These are a lot of things that we should consider
- 13 on this EIS.
- And I am still saying, regardless of what Tom
- 15 said earlier, they are helping to produce the EIS, which we
- 16 all supposedly get to read when it is done. Who knows how
- 17 thick it will be. A lot of comments in previous EIS
- documents, comments from my own people in my village have
- 19 not been put in the book in writing. And like Patsy said,
- 20 I am even hesitant myself to even comment in something like
- 21 this, because once a document is written, our words are
- 22 not -- for the past 22 years we have been dealing with the
- 23 industry. And it -- well, most times it kind of hurts us
- 24 on the end, that we can't get near them, we can't get a job
- 25 out of them and they are not supplying us with anything.

1 They get their goods but they left us with nothing. 2 (Speaking Inupiat.) 3 Thank you. 4 TIM JENNINGS: Thank you. 5 HATTIE LONG: I am Hattie Long. I am the 6 community health rep for the North Slope Borough. And I 7 would like to add a little bit more on the air pollution 8 that Frank was talking about. 9 You have stated in this pamphlet that there is 10 engineering considerations, effects on cultural resources 11 and air and water quality considerations. I would like to 12 know how effective your quality considerations will be for 13 air and water. We get a lot of yellow haze out of Prudhoe 14 all year long, and we have been concerned that the haze 15 could be the cause of health problems like bronchitis in 16 all ages and asthma that have been very persistent this 17 past year since the time that the haze started hovering 18 over Nuiqsut. And I am wondering of your activities, will 19 that haze, the air pollution that collects together and 20 just hovers over our land 'all during winter, will that haze 21 be the same way down there on the ocean and will that 22 affect the sea animals that we have down there. 23 (Speaking Inupiat.) 24 TIM JENNINGS: Thank you, Mrs. Long. 25 TOM LOHMAN: Hattie, we said earlier that some

- 1 people are going to be coming back to the community to
- 2 follow up and do some more in-depth personal interviews. I
- 3 think Jon is going to be one of the folks coming back, and
- 4 Steve Braund. I don't know if you know these two guys.
- 5 They are working with Dames & Moore. Jon has worked with
- 6 the Borough for many years in the past, and so has Steve,
- 7 doing a lot of work on the whale census that we take for
- 8 the IWC. So these are people we are comfortable working
- 9 with. We hope when they come back to your community you
- 10 are comfortable working with them.
- What you talked about about bronchitis and
- 12 asthma and those concerns, it would be helpful, I think,
- 13 when they come back to town if you could give them
- 14 statistics and things about the rates of those problems in
- 15 town. It would help to identify your concerns a little
- 16 more concretely for the document.
- 17 And the same kind of thing with my buddy Frank
- 18 over there. I'm sure they're going to come back and talk
- 19 to you and maybe talk about how big something would have to
- 20 be to withstand the kind of ice you talked about, those
- 21 kind of issues. So that is the kind of follow up we're
- 22 expecting.
- This is Susan Atos.
- 24 SUSAN ATOS: I have been working on that project
- and working with Cindy Bailey and ARCO and BP and the EPA,

- 1 and we should be coming to Nuiqsut by the end of this month
- 2 hopefully and have a workshop concerning the health issues.
- 3 TOM LOHMAN: And again, that is Susan Atos from
- 4 the North Slope Borough planning department. And anything
- 5 that comes out of that kind of a conference meeting gets
- 6 fed into the EIS process as well. So anything that is
- 7 produced out of that, you need to get to me or get to the
- 8 Corps when you do that.
- 9 SUE ATOS: (Inupiat translation by Elsie Crow.)
- 10 We will be having a pre-op meeting about this to get more
- 11 information about what the community wants, and then later
- on we'll get all the federal agencies here to verify about
- 13 the air quality, the land and seawater issues.
- 14 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: I had a concern earlier, just
- 15 to follow up -- my name is Isaac Nukapigak. I would like
- 16 to ask the representative from British Petroleum of how big
- 17 the Northstar pad you are looking at. I notice a
- 18 six-mile-long trench. Have you guys ever considered
- 19 looking at other options on the route of the pipeline? Is
- 20 there technology of doing polar sonic drilling? You stated
- 21 very well on the document that there will be a lot of
- 22 disturbances on the habitat of the fish. I am very, very
- 23 leery of the construction of the pipeline trenching mode.
- 24 That's kind of -- you know, I am not against the
- 25 development or anything like you are proposing, but there

- 1 is some other different alternative that can be done. One
- 2 of them is that trench technology where you will be able to
- 3 trench from onshore to where, the location where the
- 4 drilling will be.
- 5 The other thing that I think -- I was looking
- 6 earlier at the bowhead whales survey done by the
- 7 (inaudible) service on the (inaudible) and the bowhead
- 8 migration. You can see there is a lot of identified
- 9 sightings of bowheads, but it doesn't show actually what
- 10 the different boundaries were in the different years. I
- 11 think that would give a very good right idea of which route
- 12 the bowhead migration would be. It's a 15-year study and
- 13 you can see a lot of dots on that where they had spotted
- 14 some bowhead whale, but it doesn't show the years how, what
- 15 type of boundary they had, whether they are closer or out
- 16 of reach.
- 17 Another question that I'd like to have brought
- 18 up to the attention of British Petroleum, in the past of
- 19 the exploratory activity that took place in the Hammerhead
- 20 and the Kuvlum project, that there was an agreement, an oil
- 21 well agreement between Shell and the Nuigsut Whaling
- 22 Captains Association where that was very helpful to our
- 23 community. In communications, for example, radio
- 24 communication and to find where. And as he stated earlier,
- 25 Patsy's request, I do believe if there is a mechanism to

- 1 where an agreement, knowing that this project will go
- 2 through, and that this community is the one that is going
- 3 to be affected. I do believe that the oil industry and the
- 4 whaling association of Nuiqsut needs to work together in
- 5 setting up an agreement where we could possibly utilize
- 6 some of your vessels to transport the quarter that they
- 7 get. Like Patsy had stated earlier, that without adequate
- 8 equipment, the whale that they caught ended up sometimes
- 9 getting spoiled especially when it's really warm, when it's
- 10 pretty warm.
- And, Tom, you guys said earlier, too, that what
- we want to see in the EIS. Eliminate air traffic is a good
- 13 example. During the time that the Nuiqsut whales are out
- 14 there, to eliminate the air traffic for any type of vessel
- 15 traffic until the quota has been met by Kaktovik and
- 16 Nuigsut. (Inaudible)
- 17 Us Natives depend on different types of species
- 18 of marine habitat and mammals.
- Another issue that I would like to see is the
- 20 oil industry set aside some funds, environmental impact
- 21 funds that the community that is going to be impacted
- 22 utilize, because knowing that the governor of the state of
- 23 Alaska had already signed a bill on the Northstar, he had
- 24 already made negotiations with BP, and now it's in the
- 25 legislators' hands of how they will process that Northstar

- 1 development, where everybody could sample that local hire.
- 2 BP had stated very well that they would utilize local
- 3 contractors, local employment opportunity for Alaskan
- 4 people.
- 5 So those are some of the things that I am kind
- of concerned about, especially if a disaster should occur,
- 7 because we are the ones that is the closest community that
- 8 is going to be impacted on that Northstar development.
- 9 That if anything ever did occur, I would like to see some
- 10 guarantees that we are, the community is compensated for
- 11 the loss of what our habitat or the mammals that we depend
- 12 on. (Speaking Inupiat.)
- 13 TIM JENNINGS: Isaac, could I ask you a
- 14 follow-up question? You mentioned the six-mile-long
- 15 trench. I think you mentioned something about an
- 16 alternative that you had in mind. I didn't catch that.
- 17 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: I would like to know if BP had
- 18 ever considered looking at different alternatives besides
- 19 the trench.
- 20 TIM JENNINGS: Yes. And did you have a
- 21 suggestion on drilling?
- ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: The suggestion I had was that
- 23 ultrasonic drilling that there is the technology that that
- 24 will lead away the disturbance of the waterbed underneath,
- 25 because there is a different type of technology -- there is

- 1 a technology on that ultrasonic drilling that they could
- 2 utilize.
- 3 TIM JENNINGS: Okay. That's what I didn't
- 4 catch. Thank you.
- 5 TOM LOHMAN: One more thing. There is a sign-up
- 6 sheet. Again, we're going to have people coming back to
- 7 town. Obviously you're one of the guys we need to talk to
- 8 when we come back to town so I hope you've signed up on the
- 9 sign-up sheet. And I don't know how you guys are going to
- 10 handle it, maybe we can talk about that sometime this
- 11 evening, how you as a community want these guys to contact
- 12 you when they get back to town and sit and talk in small
- 13 groups. But, again, some of the things you have said have
- 14 raised very specific questions we need to address. We'll
- 15 promise you to do what we can to try to get maps that show
- 16 individual years and try to do it in relationship to
- 17 whatever industrial activity was taking place that year so
- 18 you can see --
- 19 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: It really doesn't give a broad
- 20 picture of each year how the migration of the Beaufort
- 21 bowhead whales.
- TOM LOHMAN: Yeah, that's an interesting map, it
- 23 shows a lot of dots, but doesn't give you a real picture --
- 24 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: It has a lot of dots but
- 25 doesn't show how far each year the boundary is. That will

- 1 give a very good general broad idea of the migration of the
- 2 bowhead.
- 3 TOM LOHMAN: Right. When these guys come to
- 4 town we'll try to make sure that they have maps that you
- 5 can sit around and talk about.
- Also you mentioned that you want to get to talk
- 7 about limited air traffic and resupport, resupply of the
- 8 facility. When they come back to town -- again, I'm not
- 9 trying to put you on the spot now, but if you have a
- 10 specific idea of what ought to happen, you know, no
- 11 helicopters during the month of September, or one --
- 12 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: That is going to be the main
- 13 disturbance during Nuiqsut's whaling season.
- 14 TOM LOHMAN: So again, that's the kind of thing
- 15 we need you to get very specific about.
- 16 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: We're the community that is
- 17 going to be impacted, especially that Northstar being just
- 18 within the neighborhood of the Nuigsut whaling captains,
- 19 their land bases.
- 20 TOM LOHMAN: (English translation by Elsie
- 21 Crow.) So, again, when they come back here, you can give
- 22 them specifics of what you want and we'll get what you want
- 23 in the document.
- And, again, the other thing just to add on --
- 25 again, I'm talking way too much as I always do -- but it's

- 1 real helpful to us in the Borough when one person says
- 2 something. When it gets down to coming and having these
- 3 follow-up meetings, if other people agree with them, you
- 4 ought to say that so that if we have an opinion at the end
- 5 we don't just say, you know, one person, Isaac, said this,
- 6 but we're able to say, you know, ten whaling captains all
- 7 said this. That has a lot more power when it ends up in
- 8 the document if we can find out what you all agree on, what
- 9 other things -- what maybe one person has thought of maybe
- 10 other people haven't thought of. So if you would do that,
- 11 thanks, I would appreciate it.
- 12 ISAAC NUKAPIGAK: (Speaking Inupiat.)
- 13 (English translation by Elsie Crow.)
- What he is talking about is that he was
- 15 explaining that those dots that we see on that map were
- done over a 15-year period and what he wants to see is the
- 17 difference -- if you do it in one year, he would like to
- 18 see what the difference is in that one year, the migration
- 19 of either going that way or this way.
- ALICE WOODS: I've got one more.
- Our fishing season wasn't very good this year.
- You know, there were a lot of men going down, put nets all
- 23 24 hours, some get one. A lot of them continue, continue,
- 24 they finally quit.
- TIM JENNINGS: This is for Arctic sisco?

1 ALICE WOODS: Ice netting, yeah. 2 TIM JENNINGS: Under the ice. 3 ALICE WOODS: Arctic sisco. Even though we are 4 down below, there is so much activity on that side. It was 5 terrible, because we shared those fish with the other 6 villages. Behind the (inaudible) moose camp, that is where 7 my son put a net. (Inaudible.) He finally said I am tired 8 of wasting my motor gas. I might as well take my net out. 9 We have no idea that what you guys know -- they are scientists. They are all the time out there for species or 10 11 they check them every five years or what. It's very --12 (Interrupted.) 13 ALICE WOODS: Yeah. My husband been here years 14 and years. This is where he is raised and it is a terribl 15 year for fishing. Logging them somewhere, or anybody 16 anywhere can answer this one besides Tom? No answer. So 17 there is something, funny thing going with these 18 (inaudible). 19 (Interrupted.) 20 TOM LOHMAN: Yeah, I just was at a meeting last 21 week in Anchorage, and Leonard brought that up -- Leonard 22 But Leonard brought that up real forcefully at a 23 meeting we were at last week. And Mike (inaudible) said 24 that periodically the saltwater doesn't come in, and those

fish come in with the saltwater and the water didn't come

25

- 1 in this year.
- TIM JENNINGS: Okay. Next.
- JOE NUKAPIGAK: 'My name is Joe Nukapigak,
- 4 president of Kuukpik.
- I notice that here that you have the second
- 6 stage, which is scoping meeting. And shortly, I don't know
- 7 how long from now, that there will be a public hearing in
- 8 regards to the draft EIS, is that correct? Do you have a
- 9 time line for that when that might be?
- 10 TOM LOHMAN: November maybe.
- JOE NUKAPIGAK: November. Okay, take that long.
- 12 Between now and that you are gathering concern from the
- villages, and as well as from other villages as well as
- 14 from Anchorage and Fairbanks, and because of this. And I
- take it that the respective agencies who give out permits
- 16 have already identified what a general description of
- 17 affected environment might be of dangerous effects. I am
- wondering if somebody here in this audience who is
- 19 representing agencies can tell this community what is this
- that BP or some of the agencies already know that we are
- 21 not aware of.
- 22 TIM JENNINGS: I don't know that I understand
- 23 the question.
- JON ISAACS: Maybe I can see if I can understand
- 25 the question to see if I have it right.

- 1 My name is Jon Isaacs. I'm part of the Dames &
- 2 Moore team, and Steve Braund and I will be the ones that
- 3 will be coming back to the village.
- If I understand what you are asking, you want to
- 5 know if the EIS process has already looked at the affected
- 6 environment and the environmental consequences and
- 7 cumulative impact and if we know anything about that yet?
- JOE NUKAPIGAK: Yes.
- JON ISAACS: We are early in the process of
- 10 scoping. The first step is to come out and explain the
- 11 process, the project, and listen to your issues and
- 12 concerns. Then we go back and we do two things. We start
- 13 looking at earlier studies and reports and start writing
- 14 about that affected environment. So that hasn't happened
- 15 yet. But the second part of that is that we want to come
- 16 out here and talk with the whaling captains and other
- 17 people in the community and get your concerns, your
- 18 experience out here on the affected environment. So it's
- 19 not just Western scientists and studies, but it is also
- your observations about the polar ice, about when there are
- 21 storms, things that we need to be aware of as we write this
- 22 up. Then after that affected environment is done, then we
- assess the environmental consequences, which is what we'll
- look at as the potential impacts of this project on the
- 25 environment and on the people.

- 1 This will be put out in a draft report, probably
- November, so there's going to be quite a bit of time before
- 3 we write that yet and we want to work with the community in
- 4 helping writing those parts of the EIS.
- 5 JOE NUKAPIGAK: '(Speaking Inupiat.)
- 6 While I am standing up, I take it that at this
- 7 time that as of yesterday I remember reading a newspaper
- 8 article that the state government has recently signed a
- 9 bill, or the Senate has passed a bill in regards to the
- 10 Northstar project.
- 11 TOM LOHMAN: They both passed it, I think. It
- 12 was passed today by the house as well. That's the
- 13 financial arrangement between the state and BP.
- JOE NUKAPIGAK: Well, I would like to review
- 15 what Frank Long and some other gentlemen here, some of the
- 16 concerns that these local people have because of the
- 17 proximity of this Northstar project.
- 18 Although -- well, in the last 20 years or so
- 19 that we have been, this is one of the many public meetings
- 20 on different issues, although the same objective has been,
- 21 concerned what the traffic might be of the proposed
- 22 project. With this Northstar project, I don't know to what
- 23 extent that the AWC has made any agreements to the whaling
- 24 associations, you know, in terms of cooperative agreement.
- 25 Has that been done or where are we on that?

1	FRANK LONG: Let me answer that little question
2	Cooperative agreement between the industry and
3	developing this project is in the process and should be
4	done in a few months
5	LEONARD LAMPE: I would like to understand. Is
6	that cooperative agreement just for the seismic operation
7	that is going on or is that for the
8	FRANK LONG: The agreement is for the duration
9	including seismic and development. And I am hoping that it
10	will be, extend for the life of the project. Nothing has
11	been signed yet. Both attorneys are working on it.
12	JOE NUKAPIGAK: So in the absence of this
13	cooperative agreement, then I take it that (inaudible) will
14	abstain from it, is that it?
15	TOM LOHMAN: I'm sorry, Joe?
16	JOE NUKAPIGAK: Just kidding.
17	Then we come to this I wonder to what extent
18	BP here in terms of an opportunity, as some of the people
19	have stated, for as we all know that the State of Alaska
20	has, you know, they have been having this problem with the
21	constitution with the state. The state constitution and
22	the requirements of a local hire position. And I am
23	wondering if the gentleman over there who is overseeing
24	this project will answer if the intent is to hire Alaska
25	companies.

IAN LEAVITT: My name is Ian Leavitt. I am the 1 BP project manager for the North Slope, if it proceeds. 2 First of all, what has been agreed in Juneau is 3 not an agreement to proceed with the project. All that has 4 been agreed there is basically the royalty, the royalties 5 that we would pay to the state should the project proceed. 6 That is basically what has been approved, not the approval 7 of the project. 8 One of the commitments that we have made -- and 9 I don't know exactly what the final wording is, but BP has 10 made a commitment that we will, we will hire and use 11 Alaskan labor to the maximum extent possible for the 12 development of the project. And specifically that includes 13 building the major process modules in Anchorage and using 14 Alaskan labor to help us do that, whereas a lot of the 15 developments in Prudhoe Bay has been produced in the Lower 16 48 states, in the United States. And also we are very 17 committed to use, to use labor from the Fairbanks area or 18 what have you for building the island and installing the 19 20 pipeline, et cetera. I don't -- again, I don't know exactly what the 21 wording in the final agreement is, but we are going to try 22 very, very hard, as hard as we are able on Northstar to 23 maximize using Alaskan labor. And we will also, we will 24 also be looking very carefully, I'm sure, to see what labor 25

- 1 is available from the North Slope area and the villages on
- 2 the North Slope both for the construction phases of the
- 3 project and eventually for the operation of the project.
- And I don't know what else I can say other than
- 5 that is our commitment.
- JOE NUKAPIGAK: Well, the reason that I am
- 7 saying that is, you know, with the changes in the oil
- 8 industry, you know, the decline in the production of
- 9 Prudhoe Bay and whatnot and now, you know, with certain
- 10 companies who have capabilities and whatnot, you know, that
- alliancing partner has been one that you, it's pretty hard
- 12 for a small company like Kuukpik to get into is what I'm
- 13 saying. How common that will be, you know, if anybody from
- 14 the North Slope is interested in being part of that.
- 15 TOM LOHMAN: Joe, you guys just had a real
- 16 important discussion. Do you need to translate it for the
- 17 rest of the folks? You said some real important things, I
- 18 think.
- 19 ELSIE CROW: (Inupiat translation.)
- TOM LOHMAN: No matter what else happens, you've
- 21 got your next court reporter over there, I think.
- UNKNOWN MAN SPEAKER: How many acre pad will the
- 23 pad be at Northstar?
- 24 TIM JENNINGS: How many acre pad on the island?
- UNKNOWN MAN SPEAKER: Yes, on the island.

- 1 GARY CAMPBELL: It's four and a half acres. 400
- 2 by 400 foot is what we are currently looking at in terms of
- 3 size, workable size on the surface of the island. Four and
- 4 a half to five acres.
- 5 UNKNOWN MAN SPEAKER: (inaudible) expect to
- 6 dispose of human waste?
- 7 GARY CAMPBELL: We will have facilities to
- 8 handle the waste, and for the most part we will have a
- 9 disposal well to put them down with cuttings disposal. We
- 10 also will have like a Class I disposal well to handle all
- of the waste so they will not be put on the ice surface or
- 12 disposed of within the bay.
- UNKNOWN MAN SPEAKER: Is there any type of
- 14 resource of type of regulations, maybe --
- TOM LOHMAN: The second one, the EPA.
- 16 UNKNOWN MAN SPEAKER: -- that will have to
- 17 approve the disposal of any type of waste, to check into
- 18 it?
- GARY CAMPBELL: Very definitely. And we are
- 20 working with the regulations, both state and federal and
- 21 whatever local regulations, in order to build in compliance
- 22 with all of those.
- UNKNOWN MAN SPEAKER: Because I sort of kind of
- 24 heard about some penalties, fines being done at Endicott of
- 25 disposing some, what I kind of heard from out there. I was

- 1 kind of curious.
- 2 GARY CAMPBELL: I am not familiar with those
- 3 specifics, but you are right, there was something not done
- 4 right. And we are working very closely with federal, state
- 5 and local agencies to make sure we understand and do it
- 6 right.
- 7 TIM JENNINGS: It looks like we have enough
- 8 people here to have a pilots association meeting.
- Anyone else who would like to comment or provide
- 10 us testimony?
- 11 TOM LOHMAN: Maybe I will just ask. Do you have
- any input on what the best way might be for these folks to
- 13 come back and set up meetings?
- JON ISAACS: Maybe if I can just mention one
- 15 thing.
- What we want to do first, people here have been
- 17 making comments and testimony on oil and gas for the past
- 18 20 years or longer and we have a lot of that testimony. We
- 19 want to read through that first so that we understand all
- 20 the things that you have talked about before so we are not
- 21 asking you to repeat everything you've said before. Once
- 22 we understand that, we would like to maybe then contact,
- 23 work with perhaps Leonard and Gordon in the city and find
- 24 out a good time to come up and talk with people. I know
- 25 there are going to be people here that we want to talk to, -

- 1 get the group of the whaling association of Nuigsut
- 2 together if that's possible. There is a lot of knowledge
- 3 there that will be very valuable to us.
- 4 So that's the way that we would look at going
- 5 forward. But again we would like to hear if you have some
- 6 other ideas, if you would suggest how we would come back
- 7 and work with people here.
- FRANK LONG: How soon would you like to come
- 9 back?
- JON ISAACS: We were talking with the whaling
- 11 captains in Barrow and they had asked us to come back
- 12 sometime, I think -- Steve, mid June perhaps?
- 13 STEVE BRAUND: I would have to look.
- JON ISAACS: And we know that you are going to
- 15 be busy during the summer. There is perhaps not a good
- 16 time to come back until after fall whaling, but our
- 17 schedule is that we have to come back sometime, so
- 18 probably -- once we are prepared to come back knowing the
- 19 issues and not wasting your time, I think sometime maybe
- 20 mid June or a little a bit later than that.
- 21 FRANK LONG: I think the later part of the month
- 22 in June would be a probable time, as soon as you are done
- 23 with Barrow.
- 24 LOIS SIMMONDS: Hi, I'm Lois.
- TIM JENNINGS: Hi, Lois.

- 1 LOIS SIMMONDS: He said he was going to come
- 2 back after the whaling season. And there is a lot about
- 3 whales and that is what we eat, so you should come back for
- 4 that and see how much we value it. Everybody.
- 5 JON ISAACS: That is a good suggestion. I have
- 6 worked in the Borough for 15 years and I have never been up
- 7 here during that time and it would be an honor to be able
- 8 to come up and see it.
- 9 BERNICE KAIGELAK: I'm sorry I wasn't here
- 10 earlier. The trench you guys were talking about --
- 11 TOM LOHMAN: Would you say your name for the
- 12 reporter.
- BERNICE KAIGELAK: Bernice Kaigelak.
- I know that last meeting you guys were here you
- 15 guys talked about doing a trench to see how the ice --
- GARY CAMPBELL: The test trench?
- 17 BERNICE KAIGELAK: Yes.
- GARY CAMPBELL: Yes, we did a test trench about
- 19 a month ago. I think there was at least two
- 20 representatives from the village of Nuigsut at that, and we
- 21 learned quite a bit from them. We are preparing a video
- 22 that we will send to you of the results of that test
- 23 trench.
- We felt it was very successful and we learned a
- lot of things not only about the ice, the water movements

- 1 beneath the ice and the soil conditions below, but also how
- 2 best to manage equipment and people on the ice as well.
- BERNICE KAIGELAK: (Inupiat translation by Elsie
- 4 Crow.) Well, in order to build this pipeline, how many
- 5 valves or how far apart will the valves be, like if there
- 6 was to be a leak?
- 7 GARY CAMPBELL: In terms of valves, we will have
- 8 a valve at the outlet of the pipeline on the island, a
- 9 valve right at the mainland, and a valve where the pipeline
- 10 reaches the other pipeline. That way we can contain and
- 11 shut in all the production --
- BERNICE KAIGELAK: (Inaudible) pipeline?
- GARY CAMPBELL: I don't know the answer to that
- 14 I'd have to calculate.
- 15 BERNICE KAIGELAK: (Inaudible.)
- 16 GARY CAMPBELL: Yes, we are in the midst of
- 17 working the oil spill issues. In fact there are meetings
- 18 tomorrow in Anchorage with a lot of federal agencies, a
- 19 workshop to take a look at the whole, all the topics around
- 20 oil spills and how best to clean them up, how best to
- 21 prepare for them. A lot of those issues, I guess I would
- 22 like to think that we could follow up with you directly and
- 23 get some questions and share with you some of our thoughts
- 24 and get into a dialogue where we can talk about your
- 25 concerns and how best to approach it.

- 1 UNKNOWN WOMAN SPEAKER: So what about pollution 2 will that affect the migration? GARY CAMPBELL: I don't think we have specific 3 answers whether it will affect the migration, but we are 4 5 studying what the noise will be that is generated, the kind 6 of equipment we are using, what kind of noise that will be, and that will be coupled with studies as to what effect 7 8 that has to whales. 9 UNKNOWN WOMAN SPEAKER: That is not only the island itself but it's the choppers that go back and forth 10 11 that will be heard. 12 GARY CAMPBELL: (Inupiat translation by Elsie 13 Crow.) Yes. We recognize that access and traffic, whether 14 it's air or on water, will create noise and will have 15 potential impact, and we will include that in our studies. 16 A lot of that is happening right now as we are speaking. 17 ALICE WOODS: I have a last one. I think if you 18 guys go back (inaudible) Nuiqsut, when I think, now it's 19 offshore. We have been dealing with ARCO on that.
- offshore. We have been dealing with ARCO on that. It's
 very close where we hunt. So when I think of that, you
 know, what we go through later as far as oil spill, how are
 we going to hunt. And I don't think none of you will ever
 answer us if we ask, if we can't shoot near where the
- 24 caribous are, how we could get them. I know they put our
- 25 (inaudible) there, there and there. Now it's offshore. We

- 1 can't catch whales because they have been disturbed. Who
- 2 is going to help the Natives? Nuigsut is growing and
- 3 squandered by oil companies. It's scary. It will be scary
- 4 later.
- 5 Like my mother was raised at Prudhoe Bay, by
- 6 Niakuk. Many of you have probably seen that house. That
- 7 is the house where my grandpa built. We can't even camp
- 8 there. That is where my mother was raised. I have asked
- 9 Corps of Engineers if we can camp there if it is a good
- 10 season, like trapping squirrel, what my mother used to
- 11 trap. They said they would let me know. Me and my aunt
- 12 asked. We never have any answer. So if we can't go
- 13 boating near that rig, now what? I don't think Corps of
- 14 Engineers will ever, ever welcome us there, because we, as
- 15 kids we went -- we can't even camp near where my mother was
- 16 raised.
- 17 FRANK LONG: Would it be right to go after
- 18 animal right movement for the human race?
- BERNICE KAIGELAK: Will you have something for
- 20 us on the trench? When you come back are you going to have
- 21 information on that?
- GARY CAMPBELL: Yes, when we come back we are
- 23 going to have information. Right now we are still
- 24 combining all of the data. In fact, we've met with EPA and
- 25 the Corps a couple times this last week to discuss the

- 1 results of that. They are not yet in a report form that we
- 2 can give people. But as soon as they are, we will be
- 3 sending that request.
- 4 LEONARD LAMPE: If I could interrupt for a
- 5 minute. Could everybody please state their names for the
- 6 records so that we could have the accurate record of who
- 7 has stated what, please. Thank you.
- I would like to say something. I would like to
- 9 compliment the Corps of Engineers. I feel better that the
- 10 Borough is in this, is part of this team. I feel like
- 11 finally an ear is listening. I mean someone took their hat
- 12 off and is actually listening to the testimony. We are
- 13 going to hold you to your word that this goes into the EIS.
- 14 I will sit down and read this. In the past I have never
- 15 read them because none of our statements have really gone
- 16 into the EIS. Some of them, in the past EISs, they have
- 17 switched around, like somebody in the community commented
- 18 like they wanted some of this development, 144, for
- 19 instance. I know for a fact this town objected to
- 20 offshore.
- So I just want to thank you for having the
- 22 Borough as part of your team. I want to thank you for
- 23 being very serious about listening to the comments and
- 24 concerns of the village, and that they are really seriously
- 25 taken. And you say that you want alternatives and are

1	asking the people for comments, and that you are coming
2	back to the villages to collect those alternatives or those
3	comments as well.
4	TIM JENNINGS: I want to thank you for coming.
5	If you have other comments, put them put down on the
6	comment cards. They go direct to the Corps of Engineers.
7	They are preaddressed. And these things end up in the
8 .	document, too.
9	Okay, I think that concludes our meeting. Thank
10	you.
11	(Proceedings concluded at 10:15 p.m.)
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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, KAREN E. FORD, Registered Professional
4	Reporter, hereby certify:
5	That I am a Registered Professional Reporter for
6	Alaska Stenotype Reporters and Notary Public for the State
7	of Alaska; that the foregoing proceedings were taken by me
8	in Stenotype Shorthand and thereafter transcribed by me;
9	that the transcript constitutes a full, true and correct
10	record of said proceedings taken on the date and time
11	indicated therein.
12	Further, that I am a disinterested person to
13	said action.
14	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed
15	my hand and affixed my official seal this 17th day of May,
16	1996.
17	ARY
18	
19	Kala 5 Dad
20	KAREN E. FORD, RPR
21	NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Alaska
22	
23	
24	My Commission Expires July 13, 1999.

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